

REMARKS

Claims 6-11 and 13-18 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 6-8 are amended to more clearly distinguish over the applied references. Reconsideration in view of the forgoing amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

Applicant appreciates the Office Action's indication that claims 8-11 and 13-18 are allowed. For the reasons discussed herein, Applicant submits that all pending claims are in condition for allowance.

The Office Action objects to the drawing figures. Specifically, the Office Action states that the claim 8 "second terminal" formed over the first electrode is not shown in the drawings and thus, should either be removed from the claims or shown in a substitute drawing figure. In response to this objection, Applicant has amended claim 8 to remove the feature that the second terminal is formed over the first electrode. Instead, claim 8 now recites that the second terminal is formed on or over the same surface of the substrate as the first electrode. This structural relationship is evident in at least Fig. 2(b). The term "second terminal" is described in the specification and shown in the drawing figures. Accordingly, in view of the amendment to claim 8, Applicant respectfully requests that the objection to the drawing figures be withdrawn.

The Office Action rejects claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over U.S. Patent 6,307,324 to Hirano et al. or over U.S. Patent 6,531,815 to Okuyama et al.; and rejects claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Hirano et al. or Okuyama et al. in view of U.S. Patent 6,140,764 to Xu et al. Applicant respectfully traverse the rejections.

In particular, Applicant submits that none of the applied references discloses or suggests an organic EL device, comprising at least a first electrode layer, a light-emitting layer, and a second electrode layer formed, in that order, above a substrate, and a first terminal that is connected to the first electrode layer and a second terminal connected to the

second electrode layer, which are formed above a same surface of the substrate as that above which the first electrode layer is formed, wherein the second terminal and the second electrode layer at least partially face each other via a through hole and are electrically connected to each other by a conductive material in the through hole which penetrates at least one intervening layer between the second terminal and the second electrode layer, as recited in claims 6 and 7.

In the reasons indicating allowable subject matter, the Office Action states that these features are neither shown nor suggested in the prior art. Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 6 and 7 are patentable over the applied references for this reason. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejections of claims 6 and 7 be withdrawn.

Applicant submits that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 6-11 and 13-18 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

David E. Brown
Registration No. 51,091

JAO:DEB/tbh
Date: February 4, 2004
OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

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